**MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI**: Government do not expect that avoidable delay will affect the work in those offices. No complaints have been made that such delays have occurred and have prejudiced public work.

**MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI**: May I know why even the High Court Judges are not given the power to appoint even their personal peons?

**MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI**: No Officer of Government has been authorised to appoint his personal peons. All the appointments are made according to the Public Service Recruitment Rules and on the advice of the Public Service Commissioner.

*Appointment of Mr. S. Ramaswami in the Engineering Department.*

237. **MR. K. T. THOMAS** (*Tiruvalla*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether at the time Mr. S. Ramaswami B. Sc. (Hon.), London, was appointed in the Engineering Department there were men with higher or equal qualifications and longer practical training in the department on a pay lower than what has been given to Mr. Ramaswami; and

(*b*) whether he has been recommended for recruitment by the Public Service Commissioner?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN**: (*a*) There were men with equal, but not higher qualifications.

(*b*) No.

**MR. K T. THOMAS**: May I know whether the appointment was made by the Government direct?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN**: Yes, it was one made by the Government direct.

**MR. K. T. THOMAS**: May I know whether for the vacancy in which the appointment was made, the Public Service Commissioner had made any recommendation?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN**: I have no information on that point.

*Diversion of flood water in Kuttanad.*

238. ***MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the date on which the scheme regarding the diversion of flood water in the river Pamba and the *punja* lands in Kuttanad to the Arabian sea, by making a proper outlet at Purakkad, was submitted to them:

(*b*) the date on which the desirability of making such an outlet has been confirmed by them and the subsequent actions, if any, taken in the matter; and

(*c*) the important recommendations contained in the scheme submitted to them?

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**MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT**: (*a*) 27-8-1937.

(*b*) 21-9-1937. Action for the acquisition of lands has been taken and the appointment of temporary staff for the execution of work ordered. Tenders have been invited, but the contract has not been settled as the question of using treated timber for the bridge is under correspondence with the Director of Development.

(*c*) (i) Constructing a bridge across the spillway.
(ii) Opening an outlet channel.
(iii) Constructing groynes.
(iv) Widening canals and rivers leading to the spillway.

*Collection of tolls by Government.*

239. ***MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total number of P W. D main toll gates and the sub-toll gates in the State; and

(*b*) whether they have considered the question of conducting the collection of tolls by their employees without giving the right of collection to private agencies, and, if so, the result of the same?

**MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT**: (*a*) 27 main toll gates and 55 sub-toll gates.

(*b*) No.

*Collections from Tourists.*

240. ***MR. M. G. MATTHEW** (*Karunagapally* cum *Kartikapally*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount if any paid by the Companies of tourists or by their agents on their behalf to the Government;

(*b*) whether the tourists contemplated in the above part were treated as State Guests in Travancore; and

(*c*) if so, the amount spent by the Government on these tourists?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN**: (*a*) Sr. Rs. 14,835-4-13.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) This does not arise.

**MR. M. G. MATTHEW**: May I know to which account these amounts have been credited?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN**: The item under which it has been credited is not available with me now.

**PRESIDENT**: The Financial Secretary may supply that information if it is in his possession.

**MR. K. J. CHERIYAN** (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Under the State Guests Department.

**MR. M. G. MATTHEW**: May I know for what purpose those amounts have been received.

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN** When a tourist party arrives, an estimate is made for the probable expenditure including travelling, catering, guides, etc. A bill is presented and they pay the money.

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